This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 60 (Cancelled)

Claim 61 (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting the cleavage of TNF-α from cell membranes in a human comprising administering to such human an effective amount of a hydroxamic acid compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, selected from the group consisting of:

(2R, 3S)-1-(4-benzyloxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-methyl-piperazine-2-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

(2R, 3S)-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-methyl-benzyloxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazine-2-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

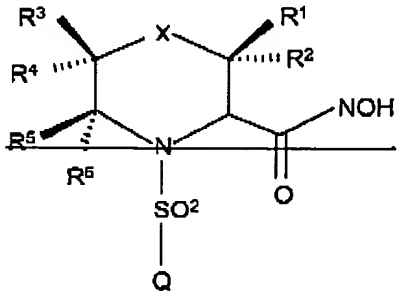
(2R, 3S)-4-acetyl-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-methyl-benzyloxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-piperazine-2-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

(2S,3R,6S)-4-[4-(2,5-dimethyl-benzyloxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-2,6-dimethyl-morpholine-3-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

(2S,3R,6R)-4-[4-(4-fluoro-benzyloxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-6-hydroxymethyl-2-methyl-morpholine-3-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide; and

(2S,3R,6R)-4-[4-(4-fluoro-benzyloxy)-benzenesulfonyl]-6-hydroxymethyl-2-methyl-morpholine-3-carboxylic acid hydroxyamide;

~~comprising the formula:~~



~~or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein~~

~~X is oxygen, sulfur, SO, SO_2 or NR^7;~~

~~R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, NH_2, -CN, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryl(C_2-C_6)alkenyl, (C_2-C_6)alkynyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_2-C_6)alkynyl, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryl(C_2-C_6)alkynyl, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$amino, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, perfluoro(C_1-C_6)alkyl, perfluoro(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (C_6-C_{10})aryl, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryl, (C_6-C_{10})arylamino, (C_6-C_{10})arylthio, (C_6-C_{10})aryloxy, (C_2-C_9)heteroarylamino, (C_2-C_9)heteroarylthio, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryloxy, (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkyl(hydroxymethylene), piperidyl, (C_1-C_6)alkylpiperidyl, (C_1-C_6)acyl, (C_1-C_6)acylamino, (C_1-C_6)acylthio, (C_1-C_6)acyloxy, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy-(C=O), CO_2H, H_2N-(C=O), (C_1-C_6)alkyl-NH-(C=O), and $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$-N-(C=O);~~

~~wherein said (C_1-C_6)alkyl is optionally substituted by one or two groups selected from (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, halo, -CN, (C_6-C_{10})aryl, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryl, (C_6-C_{10})arylamino, (C_6-C_{10})arylthio, (C_6-C_{10})aryloxy, (C_2-C_9)heteroarylamino, (C_2-C_9)heteroarylthio, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryloxy, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_6-C_{10})aryl, (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, piperazinyl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (C_2-C_9)heteroaryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy, (C_1-C_6)acylamino, (C_1-C_6)acylthio, (C_1-C_6)acyloxy, (C_1-C_6)alkylsulfinyl, (C_6-C_{10})arylsulfinyl, (C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonyl, (C_6-C_{10})arylsulfonyl, amino, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino or $((C_1-C_6)alkyl)_2$amino;~~

~~R^7 is hydrogen; (C_1-C_6)alkyl optionally substituted by one or more of hydroxy, -CN, (C_1-C_6)alkylamino, (C_1-C_6)alkylthio, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy, perfluoro(C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_6C_{10})aryl, (C_6-C_{10})arylthio, (C_6-C_{10})aryloxy, (C_2-C_9)heteroarylamino, (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl, (C_1-C_6)alkyl(hydroxymethylene), piperidyl, (C_1-C_6)alkylpiperidyl, (C_1-C_6)acyl, (C_1-C_6)acylamino, (C_1-C_6)acyloxy, (C_1-C_6)alkoxy-(C=O), CO_2H, (C_1-C_6)alkyl-NH-(C=O), and $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$-N-(C=O); (C_6-C_{10})arylsulfonyl; (C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonyl; (C_1-C_6)alkyl-NH-(C=O); (C_1-C_6)alkoxy-(C=O); (C_1-C_6)alkyl-(C=O); $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$-N-(C=O); or (R^8R^9N)-(C=O) where R^8 and R^9 are taken together with the nitrogen that they are attached to form a ring selected~~

~~from azetidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl and thiomorphonyl; where Q is (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy(C_6-C_{10})aryl, (C_6-C_{10})aryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy(C_1-C_{10})heteroaryl, (C_1-C_{10})heteroaryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy(C_6-C_{10})aryl, or (C_1-C_{10})heteroaryl(C_1-C_6)alkoxy(C_1-C_{10})heteroaryl; with the proviso that when X is SO or SO_2 and R_3 and R_4 are a substituent comprising a heteroatom, the heteroatom cannot be bonded to the ring; and with the proviso that at least one of R^1-R^6 must be (C_1-C_6)alkyl; and with the proviso that when X is oxygen or sulfur and R^3-R^6 are each hydrogen then R^1 and R^2 cannot both be methyl;~~

that possesses an in vitro IC_{50} selectivity for TACE over MMP-1 of at least 100 fold; wherein MMP-1 activity is determined by an MMP-1 in vitro assay and wherein TACE activity is determined by a human monocyte assay.

Claims 62 – 83 (Cancelled)